artificially at very small expense. The country is well wooded; in many places with heavy timber of finest quality, and elsewhere with excellent firewood. At the outlet of the Lake of the Woods there exists one of the greatest water powers in the world. This is already under development and operates a reduction plant doing custom work, and there is sufficient reserve power to operate thousands of stamps. The cost of labor is moderate; and the expense of living in the district is reasonable, owing to proximity to the rich agricultural lands of Ontario and Manitoba.

It will thus be seen that the natural conditions are favorable for the installation of mining plants and for the prosecution of mining operations at minimum cost. But a still more important factor lies in the character of the ores, which are to an exceptional degree free milling, and call for treating plants of the simplest nature, costing relatively little for equipment and operation. Under these conditions, the operations of mining and milling can be carried on as cheaply in this district as in any country where quartz mining is done on ore, bodies of equal extent. Under present conditions, all costs can be covered by \$2.50 per ton, which should be still further reduced as conditions become more settled.

DEER LAKE COUNTRY.

The Deer Lake Country is reached through Rat Portage, a city of 7,000 people, which is the distributing center for the Lake of the Woods District. It is situated on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, about forty hours ride from Montreal and thirty-six hours from Toronto, without change of cars. A new line of railway, known as the Ontario & Rainy River Railway, is now being built through the central and southern part of the district, which will greatly improve transportation facilities.

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